

TALLYHO

Serving the men and women of Fighter Country

Luke Air Force Base, Ariz.

Luke works to safeguard environment

By Tech. Sgt. Julie Briggs

56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

A 19-person team composed of 14 Air Force members and five AETC contractors will evaluate Luke Monday through Thursday as part of the Environmental Compliance Assessment Program.

“The assessment is a snapshot in time of how well the base is performing its environmental responsibilities from an outsider’s view,” said Capt. Tim Imdieke, 56th Civil Engineer Squadron environmental flight chief.

The team assesses how well Team Luke complies with federal, state and local environmental laws and regulations as well as Defense Department and Air Force policies and instructions. Lt. Col. Roger Bousum, Headquarters AETC environmental analysis chief, leads the ECAMP evaluation.

Just prior to coming to Luke, four members of the team evaluated Gila Bend. The members began their assessment Wednesday and ends their evaluation today.

“The primary reason for ECAMP is to improve environmental management,” Imdieke said. “It not only helps us determine areas to improve, but it also helps us share our successes with other bases in the command.”

Lt. Col. David Brewer, 56th CES commander, said he’s confident the base will fare very well during the assessment, thanks to “superb cross-functional support” throughout the wing.

“The wing’s senior leadership has done an outstanding job emphasizing the importance of sound environmental prac-

tices, and I see first hand how everyone from airmen to colonels work hard to ensure Luke is doing the right thing,” Brewer said.

The team assesses the base on 13 areas, commonly called environmental protocols. The protocols are: water quality; waste water; hazardous materials; hazardous waste; pesticides; air quality; natural resources; cultural resources; storage tank management; petroleum, oil, and lubricants management; toxic substances; solid waste management; and other environmental issues such as pollution prevention, installation restoration and environmental analysis. During ECAMP, evaluators inspect some or all of the areas, depending on time constraints.

Ensuring Luke complies with all environmental laws not only ensures future generations have clean water to drink and clean air to breath, but it also ensures mission success.

“If the Department of Defense fails to comply with environmental laws, that failure also can limit access to or shut down key ranges and facilities, and adversely affect the readiness of our forces,” said Sherri W. Goodman, deputy under secretary of defense environmental security.

Awareness is the key to ensuring environmental compliance, Imdieke added.

“Proper management and use of hazardous materials and hazardous waste is everybody’s responsibility.”

For more information about ECAMP, call Master Sgt. Cheryl Wiersma at 856-8493.



Tech. Sgt. Michael Burns

Mike Stewart, 56th Civil Engineer Squadron hazardous waste manager, and Senior Airman Allen Rhodes, 56th Mission Support Squadron facilities manager, check the material safety data sheets on potentially hazardous materials.

Tradition

Reserve squadron upholds Tuskegee torch

By Senior Airman Barbara Johnson

944th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The past, present and future was represented, as 944th and 56th Fighter Wing members participated in a reactivation and ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new 301st Reserve Associate Unit March 3.

Five members of the original Tuskegee Airmen and a young man with both a great legacy behind him and an unlimited future witnessed the historical event.

The young man, Kirt Williams II, the grandson of a Tuskegee Airman, joined Lt. Col. Pat Shay, 301st Fighter Squadron commander, during the ceremony while Shay read a portion of an essay Williams wrote. By writing a story about his grandfather, which he affectionately referred to as “Papa,” he produced an award-winning essay for Veterans Day. This was a true story about his grandfather, Charles T. Williams, one of the first black American fighter pilots and a Tuskegee Airman who fought in World War II.

“He was shot down in Germany and held in a prisoner-of-war camp for two years. After the war my grandfather and his fellow pilots were released and he returned to the safety and freedom of America. A freedom, which my grandfather, other Tuskegee Airmen and all veterans help to keep alive,” Williams said.

He wrote the essay after his seventh grade English teacher told him about an essay contest spon-

sored by the Carl T. Hayden Veterans Affairs Medical Center, to celebrate Veterans Day 1999. The topic was, “Celebrating Our Freedom.” Williams immediately thought of his grandfather.

“Veteran’s Day is not just another holiday. It is a day to remember how soldiers and airman like my grandfather fought for the freedom of all Americans and lived to tell their children and grandchildren about it. My grandfather is not alive today, but I have the best mementos in the world to remember him by – my freedom!”

Williams is very interested in flying and said he would love to follow in his grandfather’s footsteps, join the Air Force in the aviation career field and continue the family tradition, hopefully in one of the Tuskegee Squadrons.

“The 301st Fighter Squadron members are proud to wear the patch Tuskegee Airmen wore in combat. Today we all stand a little prouder of our Nation for the sacrifices the Tuskegee Airmen have made for freedom in war and peace,” Shay said.

Retired Col. Vernon Hayword, an original Tuskegee Airman with the 302nd Fighter Squadron, said, “The ceremony was very touching and brought back so many memories for me. I’m so glad to see dedicated pilots and a young man like Kirt carry on the tradition. The military is a great family and I am very proud to say that I have been a part of it.”

“The 301st Fighter Squadron members are proud to wear the patch Tuskegee Airmen wore in combat.”

Lt. Col. Pat Shay

301st Fighter Squadron commander

Luke majors make lt. col., 13 selected for promotion

By Staff Sgt. B. Coors-Davidson

56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

An Air Force promotion selection board chose 13 Team Luke majors to trade in gold oak leaves for silver.

The 1999B central line, judge advocate general, medical services corps, nurse corps, biomedical sciences corps board selected 1,447 officers for selection to lieutenant colonel.

“Congratulations to each of our lieutenant colonel selectees,” said Col. Steve Sargeant, 56th Fighter Wing commander. “Competition for any promotion is tough, especially given the downsizing our Air Force has seen in the last 14 years.”

The board met Nov. 30 to review the qualifications of more than 9,000 active-duty majors for promotion to lieutenant colonel and 35 first lieutenants for promotion to captain.

The following Luke majors selected for promotion are:
Diane Behler, 56th Fighter Wing
David Ellis, 56th Operations Support Squadron
James Grier, 62nd Fighter Squadron
Gerald Green, 309th Fighter Squadron
Edward Ingham, 56th FW
James Morris, 56th OSS
Michael Newman, 309th Fighter Squadron
Michael Park, 309th FS
Norman Rennspies, 56th Training Squadron
Philip Sever, 56th TRS
Lorraine Souza, 56th Equipment Maintenance Squadron
Nancy Stinson, 56th Logistics Support Squadron
Joseph Swillum, 56th Component Repair Squadron

For a complete list of promotion board 1999B selectees and promotion statistics for in-the-promotion zone, above-the-promotion zone and below-the-promotion zone, visit the Air Force Personnel Center at www.afpc.af.mil.

Action Line



Col. Steve Sargeant
56th FW commander

The 56th Fighter Wing Commander's Action Line is your direct line to me. I get personally involved in every reply. Your ideas and concerns help build a stronger foundation on which we can successfully complete our mission and take care of our people. Before you call the Action Line though, give Luke's professional experts a

chance to answer your question in concert with your unit chain of command. If the appropriate official is unable to provide a satisfactory response, call me at 856-7011 or send an e-mail to command.actionline@luke.af.mil. Please include your name and telephone number so I can provide a personal reply to your concern. Together we can make Luke a better place to live and work.

Who to call:

Fraud, waste and abuse hotline	856-6149
Base exchange	935-4652
Commissary	935-3821
Patient advocate	856-9100
Legal assistance	856-6901
Law enforcement desk	856-5970
Housing office	856-7643
Military pay	856-7028
MPF customer service	856-7874
Civil engineer customer service	856-7231

Road-paving concerns

Comment: Are there any plans to pave Corsair Street from North Gate to the 607th Air Control Squadron area? The road is in pretty bad shape and the patch work that does get done, doesn't last very long. It is especially bad between North Gate and the base fuel point.

Response: I learned this paving project has remained unfunded for the past three years due to higher priority projects around Luke. I recognize the road really needs the long-term fix, however costs for repair of Corsair Street are more than \$300,000. We will keep this project on our scope. In the meantime, our civil engineer team will continue to patch the road as needed for safety.

Food stamp problems

Comment: Why is there only one register at the commissary with a machine to read food stamp cards? Customers authorized food stamps must stand in the general line, if the food stamp machine check-out isn't free, they must get into yet another line waiting for that register. Even if these customers need only one or two items, they can't use the express lanes.

Response: Good call. The commissary will install four more terminals within 60 days to better serve customers who need this service. In the interim, management can escort any customer who requires immediate checkout service to the next available register. If you have any questions, Call Roy Mitson, store director at 935-3821, ext. 100.



e-mail:
command.actionline
@luke.af.mil
or call,
856-7011

Luke protects environment

By Col. Ed Kasl
56th Fighter Wing vice commander

How important is protecting the environment to getting your job done?

It's not a trick question — and the right answer is “absolutely vital.”

Whether you are a biologist working on the Barry M. Goldwater Range, a medical technician in the base hospital or a crew chief on the flightline, you have a role in ensuring environmental compliance.

That's equally true of the other 8,000 Team Luke airmen and civilian employee as well. Environmental protection isn't just the 56th Civil Engineer Squadron's business — it's everybody's job.

If Air Force people fail to comply with environmental laws, that failure can also limit access to or shut down key training ranges and facilities, and adversely affect the readiness of our forces.

We prove our environmental commitment at Luke on a daily basis, whether we are ensuring the

survivability of endangered species on Goldwater Range, properly labeling and disposing of medical waste, or sealing a container of solvent used to clean engine parts.

We do it not just because the law requires it, but also because quite simply, it's the right thing to do.

“There is only one way to handle our responsibility to protect the environment — and that is the right way,” Col. Steve Sargeant, 56th Fighter Wing commander, said.

Starting Monday through March 17, AETC will send an Environmental Compliance Assessment Program team to Luke to see how well we comply with the many regulations, laws and management practices associated with protecting the environment. It's an important inspection that offers us yet another opportunity to highlight what make's Luke a special place to live and work.

The team will find all the answers they are looking for in your enthusiasm for doing the job right — because protecting the environment and

performing our vital mission of training F-16 pilots and crew chiefs are not mutually exclusive tasks. In fact, most of our operations and maintenance procedures and checklists have seamlessly built in tasks to ensure environmental compliance.

That's the power of teamwork and the suggestions of young men and women dedicated to making aerospace power better than they found it.

When the ECAMP team visits your area, take pride in showing them what you're doing at Luke, our auxiliary field at Gila Bend, and the Goldwater Range to launch, fly and recover jets, or support those who do. I think they really will be amazed to find the level of effort we put forth to achieve harmony between accomplishing our training mission and respecting and preserving the environment.

Thanks for all you do for America's defense and for your responsible stewardship of the natural and cultural resources in which we are entrusted.

Healthcare fraud affects all, ultimately causes higher cost

By Special Agent Tom McNelley

Defense Criminal Investigative Service
Criminal Investigative Arm of the Defense Department Inspector General

Your healthcare provider doesn't charge you the required cost share; your explanation of benefits includes services you didn't receive; lab test results are falsified and provided to your physician; or your pharmacist provides generic medications, but charges TRICARE for brand name products. These are but a few of the fraudulent healthcare schemes that affect the cost and quality of the medical services you receive.

In July, the U.S. General Accounting Office issued a review of TRICARE operations between 1996 and 1998. The office reported “fraud and abuse could account for 10 to 20 percent of all health care costs. Applying this percentage to TRICARE contract expenditures of about \$5.7 billion between 1996 and 1998, the Department of Defense could have lost between \$570 million and \$1.14 billion to fraud and abuse over the last three years.”

As staggering as these figures may seem, TRICARE losses to fraud are only a small percentage of the total losses due to healthcare fraud nationwide. Medicare and private health care insurance carriers suffer greater losses due to fraud and abuse. If a provider decides to defraud TRICARE, it's a given that Medicare and private insurance carriers will also be targeted.

How does health care fraud affect you? Fraud of any type perpetrated against TRICARE has a direct impact on the quality of care you receive, can cause unnecessary or inadequate care and ultimately affects the cost of health care due to increased taxes and/or health

insurance premiums and co-payments.

What can be done to fight health care fraud, and what can you do? There are a variety of approaches including the efforts of TRICARE and criminal investigative organizations such as the Defense Criminal Investigative Service, the agency delegated the responsibility for medical provider investigations within DOD.

However, the process starts with you, the recipient of medical care. You must be alert and report questionable

activity on the part of your medical provider, institution, laboratory, etc. Pay attention to the medical services being provided, and compare them to the explanation received.

Does the statement reflect services that weren't provided? Is your pharmacist routinely providing generic drugs even though your doctor's prescription called for a brand name? Were you asked if the generic drug was acceptable to you, and was TRICARE billed appropriately? Do you know someone who was supposed to receive a motorized

wheel chair, but received a motorized scooter instead?

Additionally, have you gone to a medical doctor for an injury, been evaluated by the medical doctor, but received therapy from a chiropractic physician working in the same office? Another indicator of potential fraud is the failure to collect co-pays. These are only a few indicators of fraud.

The Defense Criminal Investigative Service works diligently to ensure the government is protected from unscrupulous medical providers. Will you do your part to help?

You can reach the Defense Criminal Investigative Service Phoenix office by calling (602) 277-7253; or you can report information to the DOD hotline at (800) 424-9098.

“You must be alert and report questionable activity on the part of your medical provider, institution, laboratory, etc. Pay attention to the medical services being provided, and compare them to the explanation received.”

Special Agent Tom McNelley

Defense Criminal Investigative Service
Criminal Investigative Arm
of the Defense Department Inspector General

Editorial information

The 56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office prepares all editorial content for the “Tallyho.” The editor will edit or re-write material for clarity, brevity or to conform with Air Force style as required by Air Force Instruction 35-1.

Contributors, please deliver articles typed, double-spaced and on an IBM-compatible floppy disk to the public affairs office or send through distribution to 56 FW/PA, Attn: Editor or send them via e-mail to Tallyho@luke.af.mil. The phone number to the editorial office is 856-6055.

Unless otherwise noted, all photographs are U.S. Air Force photos. The “Tallyho” uses material from the Armed Forces Information Service, Air Force News Service, Air Education and Training Command News Service and other sources. All advertising is handled by Pueblo Publishers, Inc. 7122 N. 59th Ave., Glendale, Ariz., 85301, phone (623) 842-6000.

Deadline for “Tallyho” submissions is Friday at noon.

Commander

Brig. Gen. (select) Steve Sargeant

Public Affairs Officer

Maj. Derek Kaufman

Chief, News Division

Mary Jo May

NCO in charge

Tech. Sgt. George F. Jozens

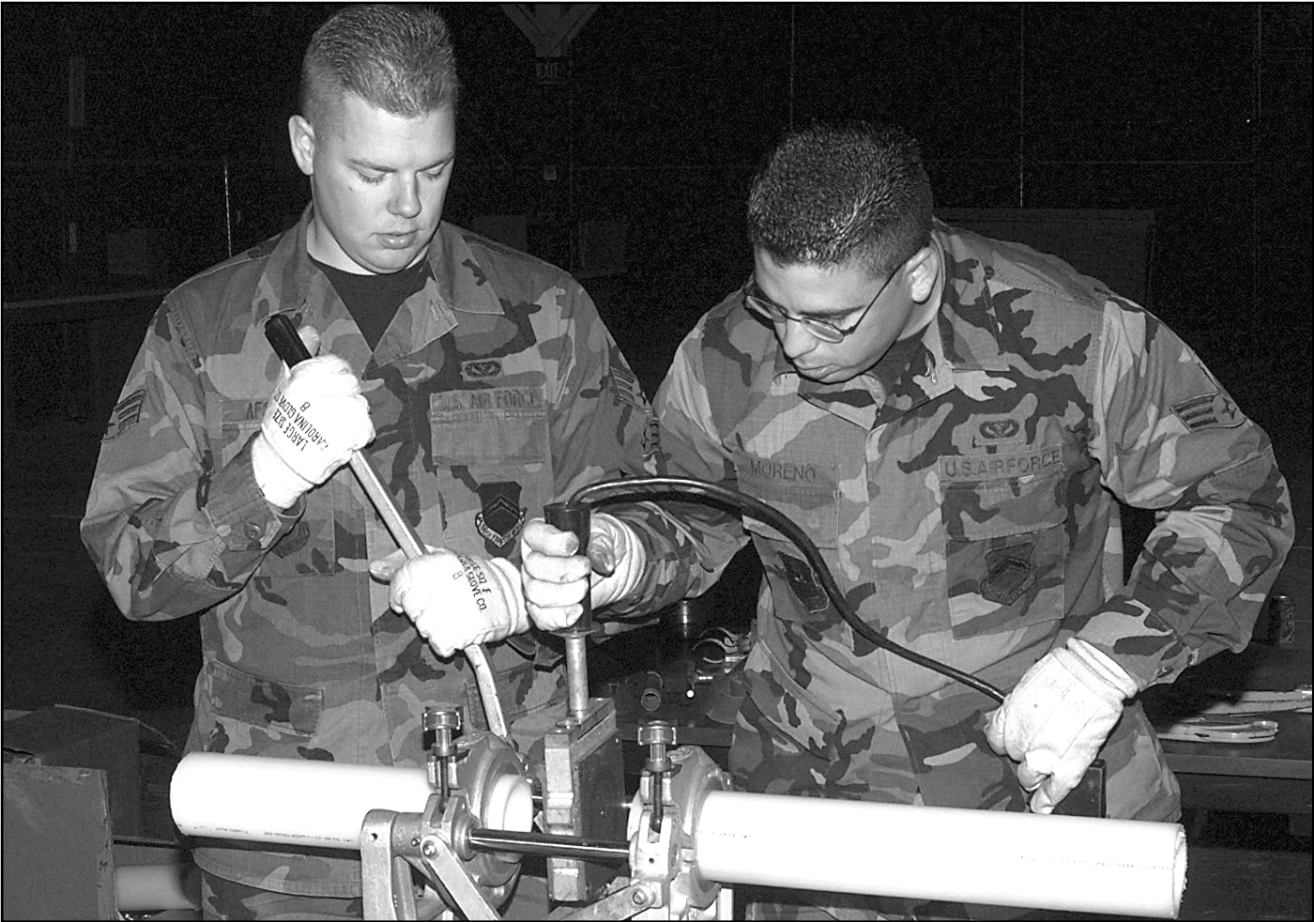


Editor Staff Sgt. B. Coors-Davidson
Staff writer Senior Airman J. Propst
Production assistant Kristen M. Butler

The “Tallyho” is published by Pueblo Publishers, Inc., a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 56th Support Group, Luke Air Force Base, Ariz. This commercial enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the “Tallyho” are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the DOD, the Department of the Air Force or Pueblo Publishers of the product or services advertised.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.



Tech. Sgt. Brandt Smith

Senior Airmen Randy Afshar and Manuel Moreno, 56th Civil Engineer Squadron utilities flight, learn to work on polyurethane gas lines with an alignment jig.

CES offers vital training

By Staff Sgt. B. Coors-Davidson
56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The 56th Civil Engineering Squadron trains regularly to keep Luke people safe from water contamination and gas leaks. Trainers from the 366th Training Squadron, Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas, came to Luke Feb. 27 through today to train the utilities team in backflow prevention and natural gas distribution system maintenance. Turn a faucet and get clean drinkable water, step into a bathtub for a hot relaxing shower, turn on a range or oven to cook the family dinner. These are a few of the conveniences Team Luke members not only expect, but also take for granted. The 56th CES utilities team makes it possible. Most people don't consider the intricate workings and maintenance requirements needed to keep clean, safe water and natural gas flowing to base homes, dormitories, duty sections and the hospital. "We train to take care of the day-to-day water and natural gas systems of the base," said Master Sgt. Patrick Martin, 56th CES utilities foreman. "We also need to know how to do the job in a forward-operating

location as part of an expeditionary aerospace force." The special training prepares utilities engineers to handle emergencies and keep a base's water system safe from backflow contamination as well as be able to work efficiently with engineers from sister services. "After the Gulf War, the Air Force recognized the need for engineers to be able to work together," Tech. Sgt. David Blaine, 366th TRS instructor. "We conduct this training with the Army and Navy to ensure we are all working from the same sheet of music." By sending instructors to military bases to train utilities teams, the Air Force can train people together, save money by eliminating the need to send groups of people to school and keep unit manning levels up by keeping engineers in the shop while they learn. "This training compliments technical school, career development courses and on-the-job training," Martin said. "It's a hands-on way to learn smarter and safer ways of getting the job done." There are always going to be natural gas leaks, plumbing problems and water breaks, our job is to take care of them quickly and not interrupt service. Water is life. Without it people can't do their jobs and the mission suffers."

425th Fighter Squadron commander

Lt. Col. Daniel Saville took command of the 425th Fighter Squadron March 2.

Hometown: Oakland, N.J.

Years service: Almost 20

Family: Wife, Susan; Daughter, Chelsea, 11; and 8-year-old triplets, Emily, Hayley and Cameron

Education: Bachelor's of science degree from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1980 and a master's degree in aviation business administration from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Previous assignments: Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.; Sembach Air Base, Germany; Nellis Air Force Base, Nev.; Langley Air Force Base, Va.; Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea; Hill Air Force Base, Utah; and Luke

Inspirations: God

Goals: Short term — to wake up on time. Long term — to use what I've learned to mentor younger Air Force people.

Greatest feat: Being the father of triplets and living to tell about it!

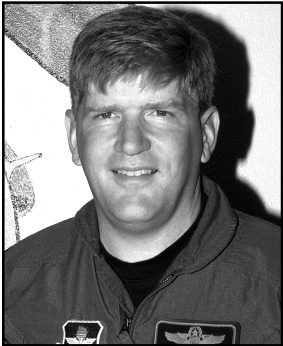
Leadership philosophy: Integrity every hour of every day, open communication lines clearly showing leader's vision, and work hard at work and play hard at play.

Self-description: He likes good, clean jokes and humor and is easy going most of the time.

Famous last words: Life is not fair — yes, all parents learn to say this!

Off-duty: Playing or coaching my children in sports activities

Bad habits: Yes



Saville

News Briefs

Night-flying exercise

A-10 and HH-60 helicopters fly night illumination missions Monday through Thursday from approximately 8:30 to 10 p.m. at the Barry M. Goldwater Range. Illumination flares may be visible from the Phoenix metropolitan area and may appear to be hanging motionless.

Women's History Month luncheon

A Women's History Month luncheon is March 23 at 11 a.m. at the Desert Star Enlisted Club. Col. Polly Peyer, 377th Air Base Wing commander from Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M., is the guest speaker. Tickets are \$6.50. For more information, call Vernadene Loveland at 856-6835.

Youth center road closure

The street between Fowler Park and the youth center is closed weekdays from 3 to 7 p.m. for the children's safety.

House-buying seminar

A house-buying and resale seminar is March 29 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Bldg. 7328.

Job fair

The family support center and Arizona Job Service sponsor a job fair of more than 100 employers March 29 and 30 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the enlisted club. Job seekers should have resumes and be prepared for interviews. For more information, call 856-6839.

Seeking memorabilia

The 56th Security Forces Squadron seeks memorabilia related to the air police, security police and security forces career fields from people who have served at Luke. Items such as photographs, uniform articles and patches will be used in a permanent display showcasing the squadron's heritage. For more information or to donate, call Chief Master Sgt. Charles Coles at 856-6099.

Phone number change

The 56th Fighter Wing commander's phone number has changed to 856-0056. The command post number is 856-5600.

Personnel, info mgr. luncheon

The personnel and information managers of the year awards luncheon is March 17 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Desert Star Enlisted Club. The event is sponsored by the First Sergeants Council. For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. Bryan Evans at 856-3216.

Operation identification

The 56th Security Forces Squadron has an engraver for Defense Department identification card holders. Law enforcement and insurance officials suggest people engrave unchangeable personal information on items such as power tools and electronics. The engraver can be signed out for one day at the security forces desk in Bldg. 179. For more information, call 856-5970.

Rental Partnership program

Military members are eligible for the Rental Partnership program, formerly the Set-Aside Rental Housing program, without paying deposits, fees or credit checks. Rent payment allotments are still mandatory. For more information, call Irene Bateman at 856-3008.

Tax center help, volunteers needed

The Luke Tax Center needs front desk volunteers. The center is open Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. at Bldg. 1150, Room 1064. The center provides free income tax help to active-duty members and retirees; appointments are not necessary. For more information or to volunteer, call Barbara Gaugert at 856-3140 or Staff Sgt. Jay Dorris at 856-6901.

Logistics professional banquet

The Logistics Professional Banquet is Saturday at 6 p.m. in Hangar 913. The event recognizes 56th Fighter Wing outstanding maintenance and support personnel. Contact chief master sergeants for tickets.

Luke volunteers judge science fair

By Janie McLaury
56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

More than 90 Luke volunteers judged approximately 600 projects in the Buckeye Elementary School Science Fair March 1 and 2.

Team Luke has played a part in the Buckeye Science Fair for the past three years. For many, this was their second year to be involved as judges.

“When preparation for this year’s fair began, the students wanted to know if Luke was coming back. Most of the science fair projects were done because the children were excited their judges would be from Luke,” Mary-Jo Mlsek, head of the committee, said.

The Luke volunteers serve in other capacities as well.

“The judges are great role models for the students. They get down to the children’s level,” said Celia Cameron, eighth grade physical science teacher.

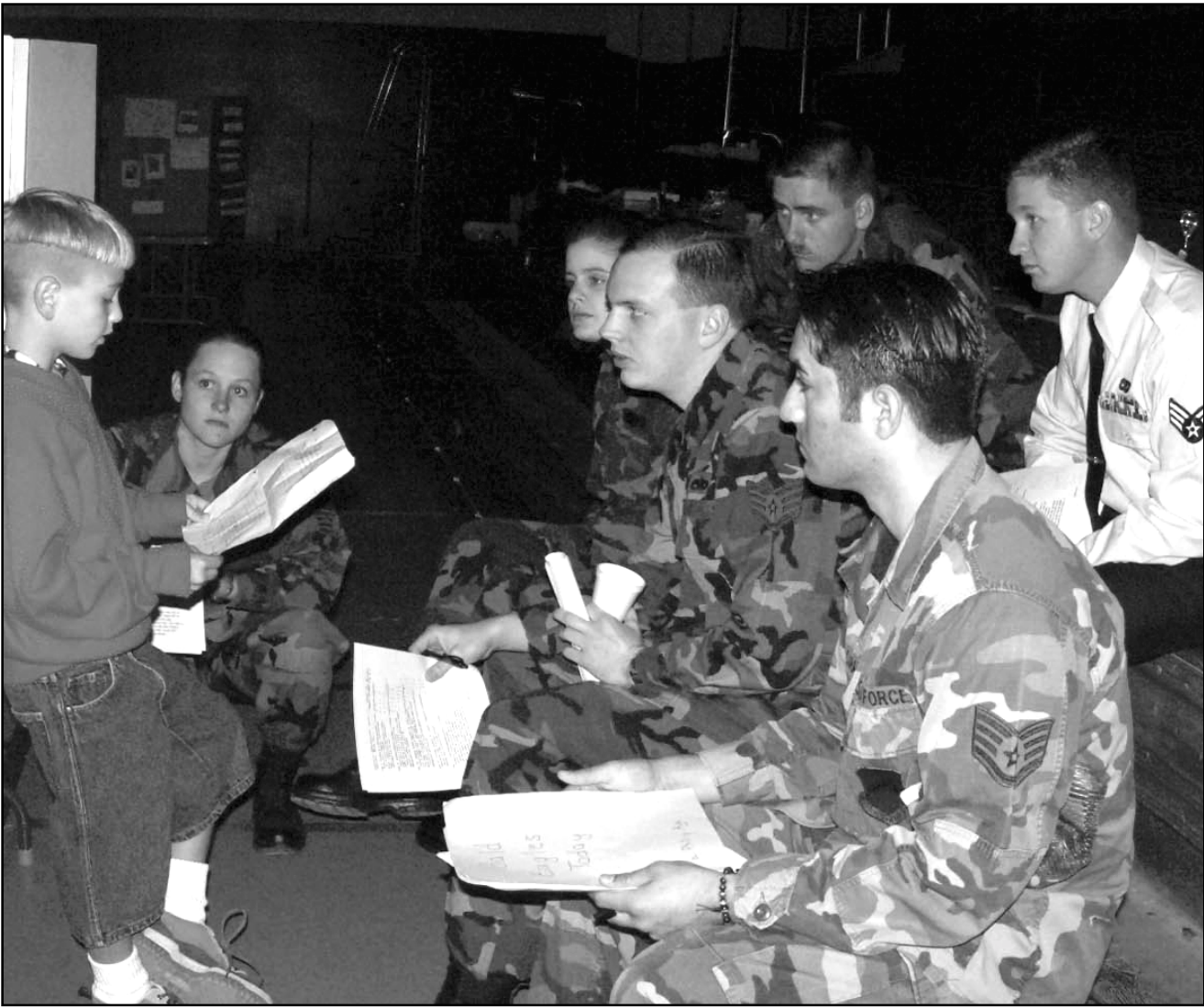
One volunteer, Senior Airman Joseph Mendoza, 607th Air Control Squadron, said he really enjoyed the two days he spent at the fair.

“To see the excitement on their faces while they were showing their projects made me smile from ear to ear,” Mendoza said. “I knew how nervous the children were so making them feel comfortable was my top priority because once that happens, you’ve broken a tough barrier.

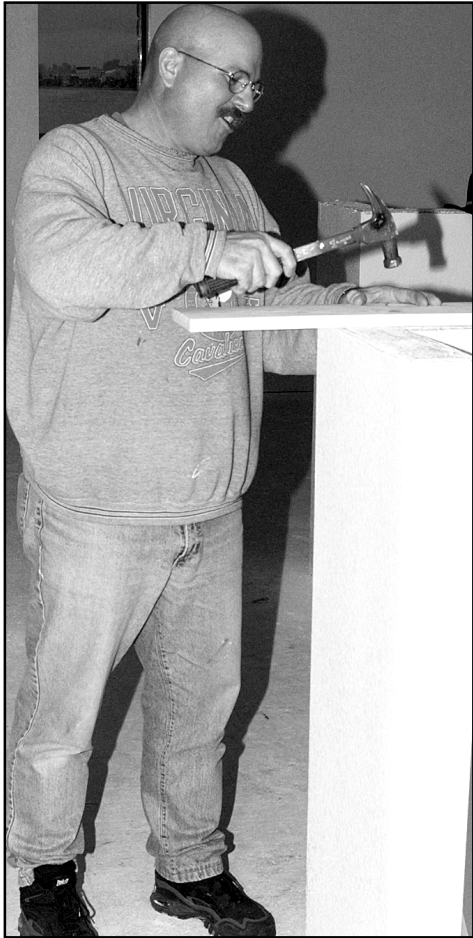
“The variety of different subjects, creative ideas and the enhanced vocabulary that some of the children possessed was absolutely amazing.”

The students practiced for weeks, Mlsek said.

“They respect and look-up to the volunteers in uniform,” she said. “The judges made the children feel like champs. They can’t wait to participate in the science fair next year — but with one condition: they want Luke airmen to be the judges again.”



Staff Sgt. Christopher Matthews
Buckeye Elementary School fifth-grade student Phillip Aja explains his science fair project about Eagles to attentive Team Luke judges March 1. More than 90 Luke volunteers judged approximately 600 projects in the Buckeye Elementary Science Fair.



Staff Sgt. Aaron Marcus
John Gaines adds finishing touches to a self-help project in the 56th Equipment Maintenance armament flight building.

Self-help projects save Luke time, money

By Tech. Sgt. George F. Jozens
56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Luke’s people supplied labor to support more than \$95,000 in facility self-help projects during fiscal year 1999.

“In fiscal year 2000, we are at about the same pace as last year,” said JoDee Olive, 56th Civil Engineer Squadron logistics chief. “Right now there are four major projects and several smaller ones being worked.”

Self-help is a way people can help themselves, said Maj. Phillip Triplett, 56th CES operations flight commander.

“Organizations provide man hours and CE provides materials and technical expertise that bring about significant improvements.CE only has enough man-hours to complete about 40 work requests per year over and above the day-to-day maintenance and repair of our facilities that keep water running and lights burning.

“Right now, we have over 800 work requests on file, which equates to over 20 years of work. Requests are completed based on the group commander’s priority, through our top-10 work priority system, and as man-hours and funding becomes available.”

Self help permits organizations to get work done that would otherwise have required a wait of several years to complete, said Tom Meyers, 56th CES operations deputy chief.

“We estimate for every dollar we spend

“The wing benefits from self-help — it’s a win-win situation,” Meyers said. “It raises the quality of life where people must live and work.”

Tom Meyers
56th CES operations deputy chief.

on materials, we save double the amount in labor cost,” Meyers said.

“Organizations can’t just take their IMPAC card and go down to their local home-improvement center and buy the materials they want,” Meyers said. “Self-help projects begin with the organization submitting a work request to CE. All work accomplished in base facilities must be approved by CE before starting.”

56th CES supplies materials and expertise as needed, such as electricians and plumbers.

“We allow our customers to do a lot, but there are some things our shops have to do,” said Master Sgt. Gerald Seville, 56th CES self help manager. “We must have electrical modifications done by qualified electricians.

We also supply craftsman to help with plumbing and structure issues.

“A self-help project can be as small as somebody painting or trimming their office or as large as a complete landscaping of the yards around their building,” Seville said. “We can order everything to complete the approved projects, including cactus.”

One of four projects that is being finishing up is the remodeling of Bldg. 920, a work area for more than 80 people in the 56th Equipment Maintenance Squadron armament flight. Their project began Dec. 1. “The self-help portion of this work order cost about \$20,000 for us to do. We took a 15,000-square-foot room and turned it into separate cubicles for each fighter squadron’s armament support team,” said John Gaines, 56th EMS armament flight production supervisor.

“We will move into Bldg. 920 this month,” Gaines said. “Td estimate we saved \$40,000 in labor working on the building.”

When the work is done, 56th CES inspects the self-help projects, Seville said. We bring plans people, electricians, plumbers and the fire department inspectors for the final inspection.

“We highly encourage all wing organizations to use the self-help program,” Triplett said.

“The wing benefits from self-help — it’s a win-win situation,” Meyers said. “It raises the quality of life where people must live and work.”

Wing Warrior

Col. Steve Sargeant, 56th Fighter Wing commander, uses this column to recognize Team Luke members’ contributions to wartime readiness in the tradition of 2nd Lt. Frank Luke.

Name: Senior Airman Erik Saracino, 56th Security Forces Squadron desk sergeant and patrolman
Hometown: Philadelphia, Pa.
Years in service: 2.5 years
Words of wisdom: The saddest thing in the world is wasted talent — the choices you make shape your life forever.
Off-duty: Playing hockey and coaching children’s hockey.
Commanders comments: “Erik is an outstanding security forces controller, a position historically held by at least a staff sergeant,” Col. Mike Hazen, 56th Support Group commander, said. “He’s also a great citizen who never hesitates to volunteer for any community activity and doesn’t look for anything in return — except the personal satisfaction of knowing he’s made a difference.”



Saracino

Luke’s Spirit

This column recognizes Team Luke members’outstanding customer service.

Name: Staff Sgt. Kristin Daugherty, 56th Medical Group customer service center NCO in charge
Hometown: Titusville, Fla.
Years service: 8 years
Words of wisdom: Of all the sad words of tongue or pen, the saddest are these: It might have been ...
Goals: To raise two great children into two great men.
Off-duty: I love collecting Longaberger baskets!
Commanders comments: “Kristin is a great worker and does whatever it takes to get the job right the first time,” said Col. Michael Lischak, 56th Medical Group commander. “But, what I like most about her is simple: If you stop to look back, it is too late, she has already passed you.”



Daugherty

Wife reports AWOL hubcaps

Blotter

Editor’s note: *Crime does not stop at the fence surrounding Luke. It is up to Luke people to make a difference. You can help “take a bite out of crime” by reporting suspicious activities and people. This column is designed to increase awareness and encourage people to take positive steps to prevent crime at Luke.*

56th Security Forces Squadron members responded to the following incidents Feb. 27 to Sunday.

Accidents

- ♦ A civilian backed into a vehicle in the Burger King parking lot.
- ♦ A civilian struck a fixed object adjacent to the Luke Federal Credit Union.
- ♦ An airman struck Bldg. 1029.
- ♦ An airman first class backed into a parked vehicle adjacent to Bldg. 637.
- ♦ A staff sergeant backed into a parked vehicle on Mohave Street.
- ♦ A wife of a retired Air Force member struck a vehicle stopped at a crosswalk adjacent to the bowling alley.

Thefts

- ♦ A wife of an active-duty member reported her hubcaps were stolen from base housing.
- ♦ A son of a staff sergeant was apprehended for shoplifting at the base exchange.

Damage

- ♦ A technical sergeant reported a hit and run to his vehicle that was parked in the commissary parking lot
- ♦ A wife of an active-duty member reported her vehicle was damaged while driving on Lalomai Road.
- ♦ A captain reported his vehicle was damaged while parked at Bldg. 1140.

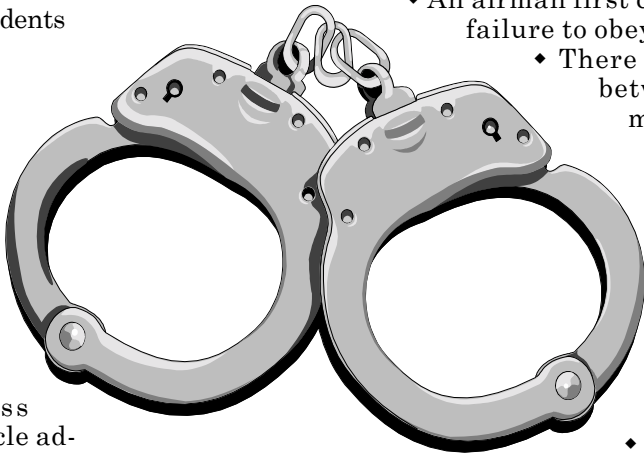
Other

- ♦ A contractor fell and injured himself adjacent to the main gate.
 - ♦ An airman first class was apprehended for failure to obey.
 - ♦ There was a verbal altercation between an NCO and retired member.
 - ♦ There was a possible breaking and entering in base housing.
 - ♦ A poodle was killed by a bulldog in base housing.
 - ♦ An active-duty Army member was arrested by members of the Glendale Police Department for disorderly conduct.
 - ♦ There were five alarm activations, two loud noise complaints, one fire response and two stray canine calls.

Property found

- ♦ One cellular phone

Luke people with information on these or any other Luke crimes, call the security forces desk at 856-5970 or investigations at 856-3748. If reporting a crime or an emergency, call 856-5970 or 911. Callers may remain anonymous. To claim lost items, call investigations at 856-3748.



Personnel center revamps website

(AFPN) — The Air Force Personnel Center recently launched its updated user-friendly website. The website is faster loading, easier to navigate and more customer friendly to those outside the personnel arena, said Maj. Tracy O’Grady-Walsh, AFPC Public Affairs chief. The revamped site includes the same information as the old site. However, it is less cluttered with information now categorized under officer, enlisted, civilian and retiree links. All links that were previously listed down the side of the front page can now be found under the site map. An added feature is “Career Corner.” “This new website is a great first step in helping our commanders, supervisors and our people get more facts about Air Force programs,” said Lt. Gen. Donald L. Peterson, deputy chief of staff for Personnel. “The website has information on subjects as diverse as professional development, assignments, travel and leisure and education opportunities as well as mentoring aids for our front-line supervisors. “Our primary goal is to assist Air Force leaders by providing easier, more efficient access to the tools they need in carrying out their important feedback and mentoring responsibilities,”Peterson said. “Our very busy supervisors and commanders need access to fast and accurate information that can save them research time in preparing to mentor their people. We will continue to seek innovative ways to get this type of news and information into the hands of those who need it.” The website may be found at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil.

DOD delays mandatory travel card use

By Staff Sgt. B. Coors-Davidson
56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Team Luke members must start using their government travel card for official travel May 1. The Travel and Transportation Reform Act took effect March 1, mandating use of the government travel card for all authorized expenses while on official travel. “There has been some misleading information about the travel card policies,” said Susan Stifle, 56th Comptroller Squadron accounting technician. The card must be used to pay for three items: airfare, lodging and rental car expenses. Other items relating to a member’s travel such as meals, taxis, registration and conference fees do not need to be purchased with the card, Stifle said. Active-duty and civilian members are encouraged to use their government cards now. Also, those who

don’t yet have the government travel card, need to apply for one through the finance office. There have been delays to travel card implementation because it has taken longer than expected for government agencies to work out details. “Within the Department of Defense, the primary reason for the delay is that we were so late receiving the guidance,” said Nelson Toye, DOD deputy chief financial officer. “When we applied to the General Services Administration, they granted us an extension, but they made it clear that there would be no more extensions.” The DOD issued the policies in mid-February to implement travel card requirements in an amendment to the Federal travel Regulation published by the GSA in the January “Travel Policy and Procedures.” The DOD began using travel cards in 1983 to pay for lodging, transportation, rental cars and allow-

able expenses. The current contractor is Bank of America VISA. Travel card rules are included in Volume 9, “Travel Policies and Procedures,” of the DOD Financial Management Regulation DOD 7000.14-R. “There are easy payment plans with the government travel card,” Stifle said. A member can “speed pay” by phone, set up an accrual payment with finance if they are going to be gone for a few months and don’t want to worry about paying the bill while away, or they can do a “split disbursement” when filling out the travel voucher to send a portion of the payment to the card and the rest to a personal account, Stifle said. For more information on the government travel card program, visit the Defense Finance and Accounting Service web site, the Bank of America VISA government card web site or call Stifle at 856-3407.

U.S. military supports flood-ravaged Africa

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany (AFPN) — The first wave of U.S. military people to deploy to flood-ravaged Mozambique and other southern African countries is scheduled to leave this weekend to start relief efforts under Operation Atlas Response. The Air Force is leading the joint task force operation as part of President Bill Clinton’s offer of increased assistance to the African nations devastated by the flooding. In all, the effort will involve more than 500 military personnel, with many coming from the 86th Airlift Wing, based in Ramstein Air Base, and Air Force units at Royal Air Force Mildenhall, England. C-130 crews had been planning for weeks to participate in a humanitarian medical exercise in Cameroon, but that all changed. “Just this morning, we were told we we’re no longer

going to Cameroon, so we’ve been working on this for about eight hours now,” said Maj. Marcy Steinke-Fike, who will command the C-130 operation. “Our crews are preparing to go for around 30 days, but it’s whatever they need us to do.” About 10 people left March 2, to join the 12-person Humanitarian Assistance Survey Team that deployed recently. The team is determining how U.S. military capabilities, supplies and equipment can support the ongoing relief operations in Mozambique, South Africa, Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Since Feb. 21, the team has coordinated the shipment of needed supplies, including tents, blankets, food and plastic sheeting. The task force’s command element flew to Mozambique Saturday, led by Maj. Gen. Joseph Wehrle, commander

of 3rd Air Force, headquartered at Mildenhall. A C-17 has already delivered approximately 2,400 blankets, 6,000 five-gallon water cans and 160 rolls of plastic sheeting for emergency shelter to Mozambique, from U.S. Agency for International Development stockpiles in Pisa, Italy. The added assistance comes as desperation is building across Southern Africa, where flooding has left more than 100,000 people stranded. Thousands are reported to be weak from hunger, clinging to trees and rooftops or waiting for helicopters or boats to rescue them. Bacon said flooding in mid-February was worsened by Cyclone Eline, which hit southern Africa Feb. 22. Another cyclone, Gloria, was expected to hit the region either Saturday or Sunday. *(Courtesy of U.S. Air Forces in Europe News Service)*

Incentives reduce shortfall

WASHINGTON — Initial returns from the aviator continuation pay program indicate that if take rates and retention patterns remain constant, the Air Force can expect to reduce its pilot shortfall to manageable levels within five years, said personnel officials.

To date, more than 3,700 officers have signed a fiscal year 2000 contract out of just more than 5,700 who have reached the decision-making point, officials said. The program also permits early sign-ups, and another 250-plus pilots have signed a fiscal 2000 contract in advance of the agreement’s computed effective date.

The expanded fiscal 2000 ACP Program is one of a number of initiatives the Air Force has enacted to respond to recent losses in its pilot ranks. The Air Force capitalized on the full authority provided under the fiscal 2000 National Defense Authorization Act to pay pilots up to \$25,000 a year, through a maximum of 25 years of aviation service. This is an increase over the previous limits of \$22,000 a year and 14 years of commissioned service.

Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, Lt. Gen. Donald Peterson, said the early returns are encouraging.

“This will go a long way toward helping us hold the line until we begin to see the positive effects of increased pilot production and an increase in service commitment for those completing pilot training,” he said.

“We’re not ready to declare victory yet,” Peterson

said. “We must continue to work the issues that influence retention, like quality of life, (operations) tempo, and compensation, and look for new ways to encourage Air Force people who want to continue serving their country to do so.”

Indeed, Air Force personnel officials note there is still work to be done. Lt. Col. Scott Frost, chief of rated force policy, said these results are initial projections, and many pilots have yet to make their decision. He added that take rates for the Air Force’s youngest eligible pilots — those coming off their pilot training commitment and being offered a bonus for the first time — are lower than expected and are being watched closely.

“The good news is that this lower rate among younger pilots is mitigated somewhat by these younger bonus takers signing up for longer contracts than expected — most are opting to commit to 20 or 25 years of aviation service,” he said. “A similar trend is also occurring in the other eligible populations. The result is we have retained a lot of very valuable experience for the future, and have made some positive strides in reducing inventory shortfalls.”

Complete details on the fiscal 2000 ACP Program are available on the Air Force Personnel Center’s Internet web site at the related link below. (*Courtesy Air Force directorate of personnel*)

Reserves seek more recruiters

By Pamela S. Nault
Air Force Reserve Command Public Affairs

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. (AFPN) — While Air Force Reserve Command recruiters work to fill vacancies in a variety of career fields, they must also work to fill shortages within their own ranks. A program called “Recruit the Recruiter” aims to locate recruiters from within the command’s enlisted corps.

A full-time AGR assignment in recruiting, according to Ostrow, includes full pay and allowances, \$375 per month special-duty pay and promotion potential.

Potential applicants should visit their unit’s senior recruiter for an initial interview and to complete an application. Accepted applicants travel to command headquarters for further evaluation. Then it’s on to five weeks of recruiting training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

Meeting goal is the bottom line for Reserve recruiters, Ostrow said.

Despite having the best annual accession rate per recruiter, the command fell short of meeting its goal for the fiscal year that ended Sept. 30. (*Courtesy of AFRC News Service*)

CSAF addresses readiness

By Senior Airman A.J. Bosker
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Despite the success of Operation Allied Force there are many challenges facing the Air Force that, unless addressed, will affect its ability to continue at its current operations tempo, said the Air Force chief of staff during an appearance before the Senate Armed Services Committee March 1.

Gen. Michael Ryan spoke to the committee about the need for increased funding to reverse the decline in Air Force readiness.

“With your support and with sustained funding our readiness decline can be turned around,” Ryan said. “But it hasn’t happened yet.

“While the readiness trend has not been reversed, our airmen continue to perform their worldwide mission with great pride and professionalism,” he said. “Our airmen put forth a tremendous effort in the air war over Serbia by opening 21 expeditionary bases and operating over 500 aircraft. During which, we continued to fly sustained combat operations in Iraq and support multiple humanitarian efforts.”

But challenges remain for the Air Force, Ryan said. “We are losing too many of our experienced people, both enlisted and officers. But I am hopeful that the increased pay and retirement benefits and the stability provided by our air expeditionary force schedule will help us retain more of these airmen we so value,” he said.

To help the Air Force achieve this goal, Ryan cited a need for increased health care funding.

“I remain concerned about the health care provided for our Air Force people and their families, both active duty and retired,” he said. “They have earned and deserve our support to keep the health care promise.”

With fewer people and the “progressively aging force of aircraft, our airmen are having to work harder to maintain readiness,” he said. “We have addressed our most critical readiness requirements in the budget by funding the spare parts needed and by revitalizing our older, but still useful aircraft and equipment.

“However, this can only take us so far,” he said. “We need to begin to replace systems that are approaching the end of their operational life such as the F-15C, with the much needed capability of the F-22. We also need to address the C-5 fleet, which is not in good shape and

doesn’t meet mission capability rates to support requirements for the two major regional conflicts context. We are working very hard and looking at ways to upgrade the fleet or in the long term.”

In addition to funding replacement systems, Ryan called for more funding to address infrastructure shortfalls.

One element that could provide the Air Force a means of addressing its infrastructure shortfalls is another round of base realignment and closures, he said.

“We are over base structured for the size of our force today,” he said. “By not having another BRAC round, we are unable to move any of our force structure around without significant opposition from bases or local communities. We currently have our forces poorly positioned with respect to training ranges and unit consolidation. Another BRAC round is needed to save money and to properly align our forces for operational reasons.

“I am convinced that with continued support and the appropriate funding we can tackle the challenges ahead and strive for the full recovery of our force readiness levels today while building the needed capability for tomorrow.”

They (military families) have earned and deserve our support to keep the health care promise.

Gen. Michael Ryan
Chief of Staff of the Air Force

‘Toolkit’ assists imagery analysts

ROME, N.Y. (AFPN) — A software “toolkit” to assist intelligence analysts tailor advanced imagery to uncover specific targets is the goal of an Air Force Research Laboratory Information Directorate contract with PAR Government Systems Corp.

Technology developed under the two-year, \$653,031 program — “Hyperspectral Imagery Exploitation Tools” — is expected to benefit both military intelligence analysts and a host of civilian agencies and researchers.

“Hyperspectral imagery uses multiple, narrow bands in the visible and infrared bands of the electromagnetic spectrum,” said Frederick Rahrig, program manager in the directorate’s Information and Intelligence Exploitation Division. “There are hundreds of these bands and, by selecting specific ones, you can distinguish between different types of features, such as natural formations and man-made objects.

“A television display uses only three channels — red, green and blue — to produce its image,” Rahrig said . “Today’s advanced sensors collect hundreds of bands simultaneously, and the purpose of the PAR research will be to decide which bands to use and how to process them.”

“Deciding which bands to use out of those hundreds is critical,” he said. “All features give off a unique electromagnetic ‘signature,’ which will allow us to tailor image processing for very specific purposes.”

Using the projected technology, military analysts will be able to differentiate between natural growth and camouflage. Civilian applications include forestry, agriculture and infrastructure planning based on soil content. Law enforcement personnel may even be able to detect plots of illegal drugs from aerial imagery.” *(Courtesy of AFRL Public Affairs)*

Olympic legend flies in F-16

By Gary Emery
San Antonio Air Logistics Center Public Affairs

KELLY AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) — As if he wasn't fast enough already, track star Carl Lewis picked up even more speed recently when he flew an F-16 orientation flight as the guest of the Texas Air National Guard.

Lewis, a nine-time Olympic gold medalist, visited the ANG's 149th Fighter Wing, as part of Kelly Air Force Base's African-American Heritage Month.

"It's such a unique opportunity to get to do this, and I feel very privileged," said an enthusiastic Lewis, as he stood in a flight-suit in front of an F-16 embellished with his name and the winged foot of Mercury.

After attending emergency egress training and pre-flight briefings, Lewis filmed public service announcements for the Air Force and Air National Guard.

He then took time to visit with athletes from several local high schools, where he passed out advice on get-

ting ahead in life, as well as on the playing field.

"I don't preach the difference between right and wrong — you all understand that," Lewis said. "Your success will be dictated by the choices you make. You can choose to be successful through what you learn in school and through athletics, or you can choose not to take advantage of the opportunities.

"An educated person will always have doors open for them, but the person without education will find the same doors closed."

Lewis said he feels that the Air Force is one of the right choices any young person should consider.

"It's absolutely a great choice. First, the training you receive is valuable in itself. Plus, the Air Force offers help in continuing your education."

"In my time here, I've already seen how important teamwork is in a military unit like this one," he said

"That's why people who have military experience usually do so well in life," Lewis said. *(Courtesy of AETC News Service)*



Courtesy photo
Olympic athlete Carl Lewis signs autographs for local high school athletes at Kelly Air Force Base, Texas.

AF advocates expanded TRICARE

By Staff Sgt. Cynthia Miller
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Air Force leaders advocated equitable medical benefits and expanding TRICARE for active duty, family members and retirees during their appearance before the Senate Armed Services subcommittee on military personnel March 2.

Air Force Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Lester Lyles called for simplifying and expanding the TRICARE system and the removal of co-payments for active-duty family members enrolled in TRICARE Prime.

“In addition to making TRICARE more user-friendly, we must expand it to include the families of 80,000 servicemembers who today are not covered by TRICARE Prime Remote,” Lyles said.

“While designed to discourage hospital visits, co-payments unfairly penalize those service members without access to military treatment facilities and have become a symbol of the inequities in the current TRICARE program,” he said.

The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations scores Air Force hospitals consistently higher than their civilian counterparts. But quality of care is not the issue — access and administration is, according to Lyles.

“We must make TRICARE a user-friendly system by reducing the complex administrative procedures required to receive treatment,” he said.

“With nearly 40-percent of our deployable force deployed at any one time, the burden of confusing administrative procedures often rests on family members.”

To address the inequities of the current TRICARE system, the Defense Medical Oversight

Committee recently reviewed the new TRICARE 3.0 Managed Care Support Contract, and concluded it is an improvement from previous contracts and reflects lessons learned.

“We’re confident that TRICARE 3.0 will better serve beneficiaries by encouraging closer coordination between contractors and military treatment facilities,” Lyles said.

TRICARE Senior Prime addresses the medical benefits of over-65 retirees and their family members and provides for access to the National Mail Order Pharmacy.

“We are trying very hard to fulfill the promise made to our older retirees that they would have health care for life,” said Lt. Gen. (Dr.) Paul Carlton, Air Force surgeon general, who also appeared before the subcommittee.

“I am happy to say that our participation in the TRICARE Senior Prime demonstrations have been well received, and enrollees have better prescription coverage than ever before,” Carlton said.

In his opening remarks, committee chairman, Sen. Tim Hutchinson (R-Ark.), introduced “The Military Health Care Improvement Act of 2000,” a proposal which addresses active-duty service member issues with the TRICARE program and takes the first step toward meeting the commitment to the Medicare-eligible military retiree population.

“The act is achievable this year,” he said. “It is one piece of legislation that is affordable and, if enacted, will provide a legislative entitlement for military retirees and their families over age 65 for pharmaceutical benefits.

“This would be the first time any military health care benefit for the over-65s could be relied on as an entitlement, rather than a benefit subject to the vagaries of the term ‘space available’ care and services.”

Privatized homes open at Lackland

By Staff Sgt. Cynthia Miller
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Addressing military family quality-of-life concerns, the Air Force opened its first 92 privatized housing units at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, in January, and is on track to complete an additional 328 units by February.

The project is one of 34 housing privatization projects on 31 installations, and is the Air Force’s response to the secretary of defense’s tasking to the services to “revitalize, divest through privatization, or demolish inadequate housing by fiscal 2010.”

Each project is outlined for the Air Force for either Military Construction Program or privatization execution in the Family Housing Master Plan.

“This is our guide to the future,” said Binks Franklin, chief of facility privatization at the air staff.

Through leasing and development of base land, the projects effectively move construction, revitalization and operations and maintenance costs of running family housing into hands of a private contractor.

Tenants of new units are charged rent based on their pay grade and supplemented by basic allowance for housing.

“Servicemembers moving into the units will receive BAH to cover rental (and utility) expenses,” Franklin said. “It is designed so the goal is no out-of-pocket expenses. We’ve allowed for 110 percent of reasonable utility costs to cover the utilities and the BAH balance will go toward paying rent.”

According to Franklin, the Air Force owns 106,000 housing units. Nearly 65,000 of those units require some upgrades. Under the Family Housing Master Plan, 33,000 units will be privatized while the Air Force retains ownership of the rest.

National Women's History Month

AF honors past, future triumphs, challenges

By Tech. Sgt. Janay Carleen Baptiste
56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Women fought wars long before they were allowed in the military. In a male-dominated society they've struggled for respect, equality and opportunities in every arena.

When congress passed a law establishing the Women Army Auxiliary Corps, retired Maj. Anne Krizanauskas was the first woman in Schuylkill County, Pa., to enlist.

According to Krizanauskas, who now resides in Mesa, the public looked upon women joining the military with skepticism.

"They wondered what kind of women went into the service," she chuckled. "Some of the opinions were very suggestive."

Back then, women were allowed in only three career fields: cook and baker; motor corps, women drove staff cars and trucks; and administrative, primarily in the hospital.

By the time Chief Master Sgt. Bobbi Boutwell, accessories flight chief at the 56th Component Repair Squadron entered the Air Force in 1977, things were a little bit easier for women. After all, it was the previous year the Air Force finally admitted women to pilot training, though they weren't allowed to fly combat aircraft.

Boutwell said in her early days as a female maintenance person, she had to prove herself a lot more than men. Yet, she considers herself lucky in the career she's had.

"I'm aware many women have had problems (in the workplace), but I have always been treated well by the people I worked with," she said. "I've never felt discriminated against."

Boutwell said she believes airmen look to her as a role model because she has attained the rank of chief.

"It's kind of neat that I can be a role model and influence young airmen's futures."

Women role models can be found all over the base. Lt. Col. Peggy Matarese, commander of the 56th Medical Operations Squadron is one example. Besides her role as commander, she's also a practicing physician and a flight surgeon with the 63rd Fighter Squadron.

Matarese said when she came on active duty in 1986, there were very few women medical group or squadron commanders. She said although she has seen progress in that area, which is very exciting, there is still some resistance.

"I think sometimes people don't know how quite to relate to women in leadership roles," she said.

However, she believes the Air Force has taken appropriate steps to address those issues.

"If you try to force too much change, I think it creates resentment," Matarese said. "We may not be where we need to be, but I think we're making the right progress."

In 1993, the Air Force began allowing women to fly combat aircraft and



Photos by Staff Sgt. Christopher Matthews

Airman 1st Class Sean Cutler explains the ejection system to Chief Master Sgt. Bobbi Boutwell.



Lt. Col. Peggy Matarese is both the 56th Medical Operations Squadron commander and a flight doctor for the 63rd Fighter Squadron.

Matarese views that as lifting barriers toward opportunity.

"The opportunity is there for the ones who really want to do it, and are capable," she said.

Matarese said as women are successful in whatever field, as people have personal, positive experiences with them, they start to lose their prejudices and biases. She said she sees that as an effective process. As others choose the same paths, they are more easily accepted.

Matarese, a colonel select, is aware that whether she wants to be or not, she's viewed as a role model.

"I think I'm very visible for a number of reasons: I'm a woman and a squadron commander in a role that has mostly men.

"I'm aware of my opportunity as a mentor and to 'grow the next generation.' I try to be as encouraging and as realistic as I can," she said.

Matarese said she encourages incoming airmen to not let gender be an issue.

"In today's Air Force, how far you go is determined by your talent, motiva-

tion and dedication."

For two students at the First Term Airman's Center, a "go for it" attitude is definitely on their agenda.

Airman Basic Jamie Oswald, 56th Security Forces Squadron, said she joined the Air Force because she hopes to jump start a career in a police department or the FBI.

"I think women's roles are growing, and we're accepted into most career fields," she said. I guess we've proved we can do just as well as any male."

Oswald said she likes the fact she trained with males both in basic training and technical school, instead of being treated differently. She said it made her strive harder at being the best.

"There are some who would question my ability to 'take down' a large guy," she said. "However, I don't think it has anything to do with being small or female, but how well you know your skills."

Airman Basic Rebecca Hoover, 56th Component Repair Squadron agrees.

"There's some pressure being in a male-oriented field, and I sometimes feel I'm being watched to see if I 'mess up.'"

They both said they want to be the best at what they do. It's their way of showing gratitude to the many women who opened the doors before them, making a military career easier.



Courtesy photo

Air Women's Army Corps recruits line up for inspection before their barracks in 1943.



(Left) Airmen basic Jamie Oswald, 56th Security Forces Squadron, and Rebecca Hoover, 56th Component Repair Squadron, represent the future of the Air Force. They become acquainted with military ways as they listen to briefings at the First Term Airman's Center.

Microchips help pet owners

By Airman 1st Class Jon McMillian

5th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

MINOT AIR FORCE BASE, N.D. (ACCNS) — Base law enforcement specialists are dispatched to investigate a suspicious disturbance behind the shoppette and discover a friendly mutt named Spot.

A scanner is passed over Spot’s back and a digital readout gives the dog’s identification number, which is referenced to a database that provides authorities with the dog’s shot records, its owner’s name, address and phone number.

Spot and his owner might be fictitious, but identifying a pet with a handheld scanner is not.

The technology allowing pets to be microchipped has been available since the late 1980s, according to Army Sgt. Atwell Cersley, base veterinary technician, but the veterinary services office here has only been conducting the procedure for about two years.

“The program is still in its infancy,” Cersley said. “Right now we’ve only ‘chipped’ about 20 animals.”

However, Cersley believes the microchip implants will become more commonplace as people realize the benefits of the procedure and more communities make it a requirement.

The implant is a very small microchip, about the size of a grain of rice, Cersley said. It’s inserted between the pet’s shoulder blades with a needle that looks about the size of one used to collect blood from a human. Cersley said the procedure is equally as quick and painless.

“It’s a relatively painless procedure that requires no anesthesia and takes less than two minutes to perform,” he said. “It actually takes me longer to fill out the paperwork than it does to implant the (microchip in the) animal.”

“The good thing about getting your pet microchipped while you are in the military is that it costs

you about half of what it would off base,” he said. “The chip is good for the life of the pet, so it’s a one-time deal. And if you think about the benefits, it’s well worth the \$17.”

That is also the opinion of Chief Master Sgt. Vicki Swingle, former 5th Bomb Wing command chief master sergeant, and Col. David Clark, 5th Medical Group commander, whose pets both received implants.

“My dog, Kelly is an important part of our family,” Clark said. “And this is a good way to ensure that if we lose her, she will be returned.”

Swingle agrees people should be held accountable for their pets and also thinks the implants will help to solve another, more malignant problem.

“I have a big concern with ‘pet dumping,’” she said. “And unfortunately, the military has a bad reputation for abandoning animals.

“When they made this program mandatory at Beale Air Force Base, Calif., and enforced it, the number of abandoned animals dropped dramatically. People realized their pets could be traced back to them easily. So they stopped dumping them for fear of getting in trouble. It also makes one rethink the commitment[of owning an animal before purchasing it,” she said.

Base law enforcement officials have been provided with a handheld scanner that can read the implants like the one Kelly and Swingle’s cat Minot received, and according to Cersley, the Souris Valley Humane Society has also purchased one.

According to Cersley, it is suspected the majority of the animals at the downtown humane society are military-owned. In the summertime, Cersley estimates two to three stray animals a day are picked up by security forces on the base.

He said he believes if the program is adopted, it will encourage pet responsibility, decrease abandonment and save time and resources the base security officials spend trying to catch the strays.

Information, Tickets and Tours

Information, Tickets and Tours is in the community and wellness center. Dillards Box Office and Ticketmaster hours are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and closed Sunday. For more information, call 856-6000.

Mexico shopping

There is a shopping day-trip to Nogales, Mexico, Mar 18. The bus departs Bldg. 700 at 6 a.m. and returns at 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$15. Shoppers should wear comfortable walking shoes and carry picture identification. Call for reservations.

Laughlin trip

There is a trip to Riverside Casino, Laughlin, Nev., Mar. 19. Bus departs Bldg. 700 at 6 a.m. and returns at 10 p.m. Cost is \$5 and includes transportation. Call for reservations.

Commander’s Access Channel

Air Force Television News, Feb. 22 edition

- ♦ DOD’s Air Force budget
- ♦ New program provides aircraft mechanics
- ♦ Air Force career opprotunities for women

Monday— 11:30 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Wednesday— 11:30 a.m.

Thursday— 2 p.m.

Heir born

The following babies were born at Luke Hospital:
Jan. 21
Jarett Luke to Megan and Phillip Humphries

Feb. 2
Janine to Lynda and Adrian Toh
Nicholas James to Nova and Alex Dubovik
Arion Jadae to Toi and Reginald Strother

Feb. 3
DeAira Diane to Erica Martin and Allen Stevenson
Dana Grace-Nicole to Sheryl and Marvin Shelley

Feb. 4
Arnold Cunanan to Celina and Arnold Castro

Feb. 7
Madison Maile to Linda and Jonathan Sharp
Shawn Cristopher to Angelina and Thomas Dooley
Tyler Joel to Jeannie and Erik Singletary

Feb. 8
Helene Marie to Jan and Henry Castagnaro
Peyton Taylor to Alisa and David DeWitt
Kaitlyn Mackenzie to Tara Mulvey

Feb. 9
Steven Mitchell to Beth and Michael Lord

Christian Damiar to Maria and Pablo Valles

Feb. 12
Zoe Alexix to Heather and Stephen Zoellner
Jennifer Marie to Grace and Robert Andrae

Feb. 14
Dayan Joseph to Michelle Celusak and Dayan Gerena-Matias

Feb. 16
Declan James to Monique and Thomas Delehanty
Erica Domanique to Sylvia Muro and Eric Marrufo
Jocelyn Marie to Holly and Andrew Adamic

Feb. 22
Jesse Allen to Pam and David Stump

Feb. 23
Dylan Alexander to Brandi and Mitchell Boden
Sky Lin to Jennie and Harold Hardial

Feb. 24
Sophia Marie to Hannah and Ricky Duhon
Cameron Reese to Amy and Todd Matheny

Feb. 27
Hailey Allese to Melissa and Sean Denny



Chapel News

Worship schedule

The following is Luke’s worship schedule:

Protestant worship

- ♦ Gospel service is Sunday at 8:30 a.m. at the Chapel on the Mall.
- ♦ Liturgical service is Sunday at 8 a.m. at the Luke Community Chapel.
- ♦ Contemporary service is Sunday at 6 p.m. at the Luke Community Chapel.
- ♦ Shared faith service is Sunday at 11 a.m. at the Luke Community Chapel.

Catholic worship

- ♦ Saturday Mass is at 5 p.m. at the Luke Community Chapel.
- ♦ Sunday Mass is at 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. at the Luke Community Chapel
- ♦ Weekday Mass is at noon at the Luke Community Chapel.



For more information on other chapel programs, call 856-6211.

Luke Movies

Movies begin at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted.
Children 12 and under pay \$1; adults \$1.50.

Today and Saturday

“The Hurricane” (R)



Stars Denzel Washington. In June 1966, Rubin “Hurricane” Carter was a contender for the middleweight boxing title. When three people are murdered in a New Jersey bar, Carter is wrongfully arrested and sentenced to serve three life terms in prison. (120 minutes)

Sunday

“Magnolia” (R)



Stars Jason Robards and Julianne Moore. A dying father, a young wife, a male caretaker, a famous lost son, a police officer in love, a boy genius, an ex-boy genius, a game show host and an estranged daughter each become part of a dazzling multiplicity of plots, but one story. Through a collusion of coincidence, chance, human action, shared media, past history and divine intervention they weave and warp through each other’s lives on a day that builds to an unforgettable climax. Some seek forgiveness, others escape. (180 minutes)

March 17

“The Talented Mr. Ripley” (R)



Stars Matt Damon and Gwyneth Paltrow. To be young and carefree amid the blue waters and idyllic landscape of sun-drenched Italy in the late 1950s; that’s the life Tom Ripley craves — and Dickie Greenleaf leads. When Dickie’s father, a wealthy ship builder, asks Tom to bring his errant playboy son back home to America, Dickie and his beautiful girlfriend never suspect the dangerous extremes to which Ripley will go to make their lifestyle his own. After all, it’s better to be a fake somebody than a real nobody. (175 minutes)

Around Base

CPR and first aid class

The Red Cross has a cardiopulmonary resuscitation and first aid class for all military, civilian employees and family members April 1 at 9 a.m. at Bldg. 1150, Rm. 1007. Cost is \$22. To register or for more information, call 856-7823.

Enlisted wives club

Spouses interested in forming an enlisted wives club can call Vernadene Loveland at 856-6835.

Job fair

The Family Support Center has a job fair March 29 and 30 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Desert Star Enlisted Club for all Team Luke and family members. For more information, call Dot McDaniel at 856-6839.

Dental assistant training



The Red Cross has a 6-month dental assistant training course beginning April 3. Classes are open to all military identification card holders. For more information, call Master Sgt. John Rossell at 856-7533.

Gong show

There is a gong show for all Team Luke members March 22 at 7 p.m. at the base theater. Admission is free. For more information, to perform or volunteer, call 856-7152.

Hike for homeless

Saint Joseph the Worker's has a 2-kilometer "Hike for the Homeless" Saturday at 9 a.m. at Dreamy

Draw, Ariz. Registration is \$10 for individuals or \$7 per person for groups of five or more. To register, call (602) 257-4390.

Budweiser Clydesdales

Team Luke and family members are invited to see the Budweiser Clydesdale horses at the Shoppette Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m.



Big band, USO show

The Arizona Wing of the Confederate Air Force has a big band dance and World War II-style United Services Organization show March 18 at 8 p.m. at Falcon Field Airport, 2017 N. Greenfield Road, Mesa. Advance tickets are \$20 per person or \$25 at the door. Doors open at 5 p.m., the show starts at 6:45 p.m. and dancing starts at 8 p.m. For reservations or more information, call (480) 924-1940 or (480) 981-1945.

Career fair

Estrella Mountain Community College has a career fair March 30 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 3000 N. Dysart Road, Avondale. Technology, education, health care, retail and other career fields are represented. For more information, call (623) 935-8804.

Embry-Riddle registration

The Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University spring term begins March 20. Registration ends March 24. For more information, call 856-6471.

OWC craft fair

The Luke Officers Wives Club needs vendors for a spring craft fair March 21 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. the fee is \$30 per 6-foot table. For more information, call Rhonda Fingal at 935-7352.

Chamber honors breakfast

Tri-City West Chamber of Commerce has a

breakfast to honor Team Luke members March 23 at 7 a.m. at the Estrella Hall Community Room of Estrella Mountain Community College. Cost is \$7 for members and \$10 for nonmembers. For reservations, call 932-2260.

Arizona Renaissance Festival

The 56th Services Squadron offers free Arizona Renaissance Festival ticket drawings at services facilities through March. Reduced-price tickets are also available from Information Tickets and Tours. The festival is Saturdays and Sundays through March 26. For more information, call 856-6000.

Retirement center volunteers

Good Shepherd retirement center seeks volunteers for the adopt-an-elder program. To volunteer or for more information, call 875-0122.

Luke AFA Chapter

The Luke Chapter of the Air Force Association meets at noon the third Friday of each month at the Enlisted Club. Anyone interested is invited eat lunch with some AFA members. For more information call Harry Bailey at 846-7483.

Reunion

Air Rescue Association annual reunion is Sept. 24 to 28. For more information, call Shad Shaddox at (210) 656-0306 or visit the air rescue web page at pedroairrescuechopper.net/ara/.

Archaeology month

There is a series of public archaeology lectures as part of Arizona Archaeology Awareness Month beginning Thursday. Lecture subjects include archeaology of the western Papagueria. For more information on events, dates and locations, call Adrienne Rankin at 856-3823, ext. 240.





March Madness

Luke sponsors annual basketball tournament

By Senior Airman J. Propst
56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The Luke men's varsity basketball team finished their season in style, winning Luke's annual March Madness Basketball double-elimination tournament Sunday by defeating Davis-Monthan Air Force Base 87-75 at the base fitness center.

The tournament, played March 3 through Sunday, featured teams from Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., Ellsworth Air Force Base S.D., as well as other teams from around the state.

"It was nonstop action from the start of the first game," said Mike McManus, Luke sports director.

The opening game, which pitted

Vandenberg against Ellsworth, set the tone for the entire tournament with 11 crowd-pleasing slam dunks. The excitement continued when tournament all-star Howard Hull from Ellsworth put the game into overtime with a last second shot at the buzzer. The game continued to be close, when Steve Pipes of Ellsworth was fouled with one second left on the clock. Pipes choked and missed both free throws giving Vandenberg a narrow win.

The Luke Falcons had little trouble getting into the finals with an easy win over the short handed D-M Mustangs, 96-77. In the Falcon's next game, they ran the Luke Allstars into the ground, winning 108-76.

This not only put the Falcons into the championship game, but also meant their foe would have to beat them twice to win tournament bragging rights.

Since Fort Huachuca had to pull out at the last minute, Luke put together a pick-up team which gave Ellsworth a run for their money. Ellsworth pulled away late in the second half winning 92-75.

"Davis Monthan had a long road to travel, but they did it impressively," McManus said. "They used their running game to their advantage."

D-M eliminated the Luke Allstars 92-71 and the Vandenberg team 92-66 on their crusade to the finals.

The final game

The final game pitted long-time rivals, the Falcons and Mustangs against each other. They were fighting not only for the tournament title, but the bragging rights for the best Arizona team.

During the first half, the score bounced back and forth as both teams' defense and offense came together perfectly. As the half ended D-M started showing the first signs of fatigue from having already played a game earlier in the day. They worked hard however, until the buzzer rang, leaving Luke clinging to a narrow 42-41 lead.

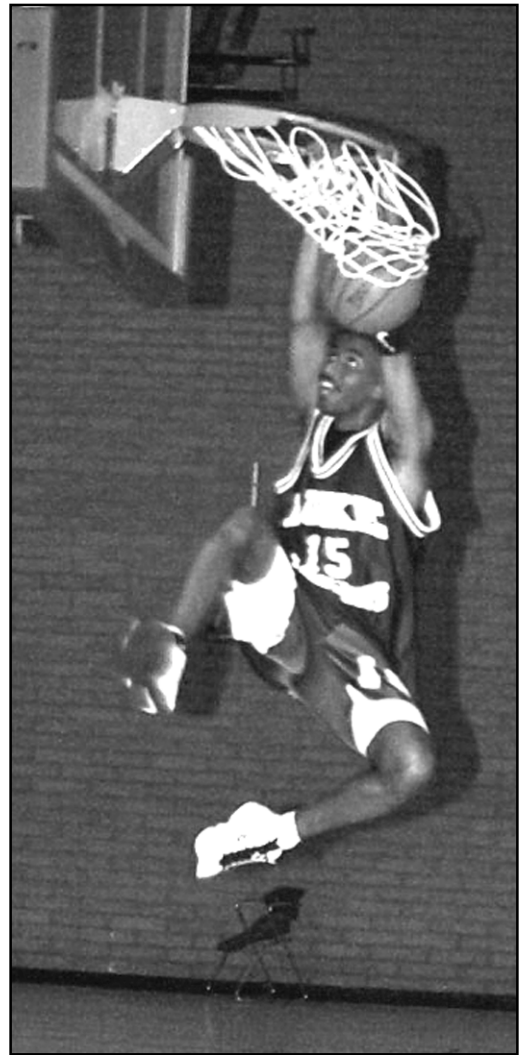
The game continued to be close until there were six minutes left, when Luke used their fresher legs to pull ahead with one fast break after another giving them a 12-point lead. The Falcons never looked back. With a balanced, aggressive attack, they defeated the overwhelmed Mustangs by 12 points.

"We had a strong inside game," said Maurice Jones, D-M's coach. "Unfortunately, because we played an earlier game, we just couldn't keep up with them."

For the Falcons, this was just another win in an unbelievable season. With more than 40 wins and three championships under their belts, the team knew what they had to do, Leon Jackson said.

"The guys were determined to win," Jackson said. "This tournament is a testimony to how they performed all year. They all did what had to be done. They moved the ball as a team."

The statistics reflect the team effort



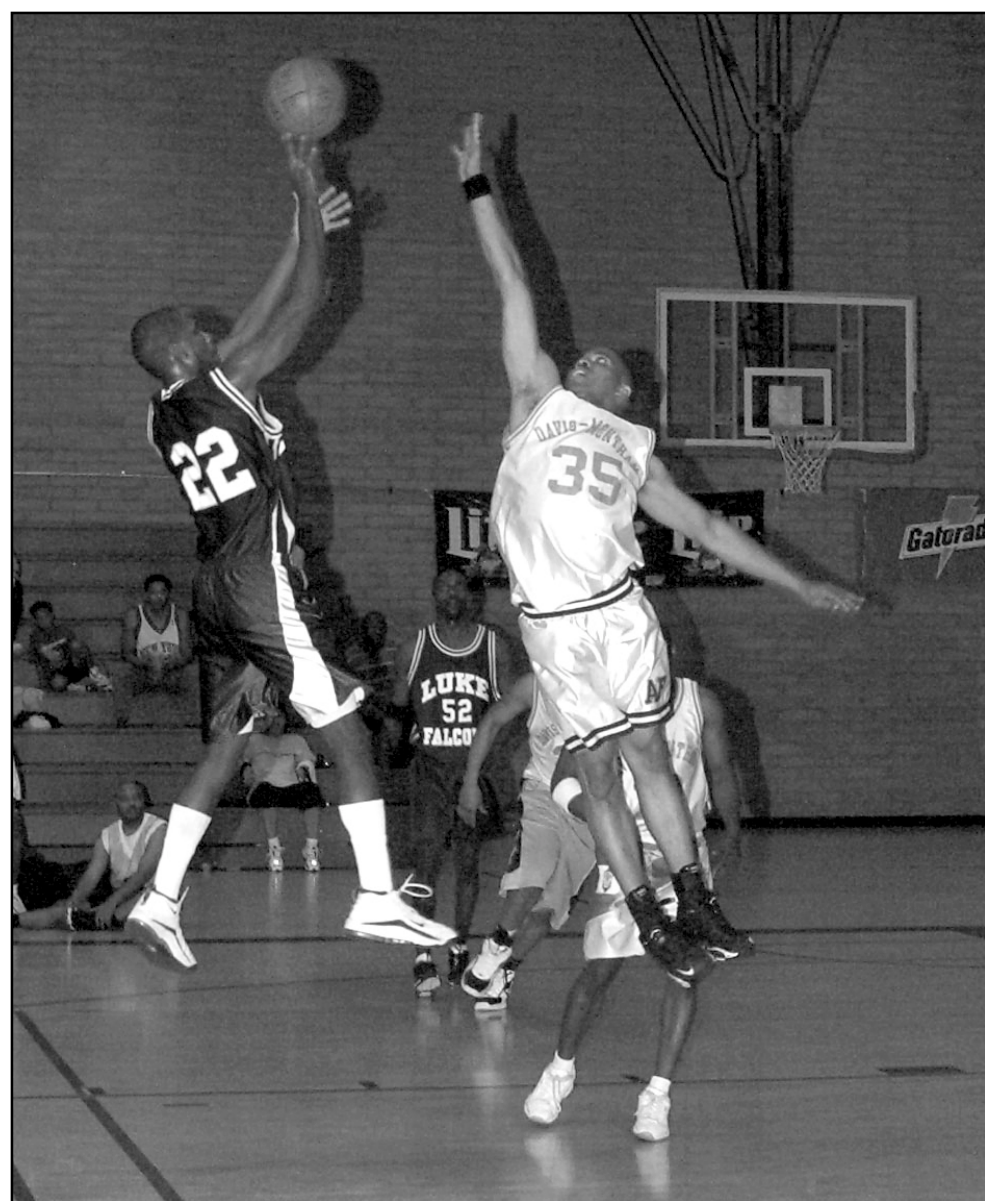
Donald Lair of the Luke Falcons excites the crowd with a slam dunk. Luke went on to win the March Madness tournament, one of three championship titles earned by the Falcons the 1999 - 2000 season.

with final game high scorer, Richard Noah with 15 points, only having one extra point than the next three high scorers.

Two players from Luke took home individual awards. Nate Stephens received most valuable player and Meeko Thomas was named to the all-tournament team for his outstanding play on both sides of the court.

Luke wasn't the only team with strong players Kirkland Fairly from D-M received the "Mr. Hustle" award.

"We had a great week of basketball and it was exciting to see all the support from Luke's fans in support of their teams as well as the tournament," McManus said. "Our guys were true ambassadors of Luke and represented our base with dignity and pride throughout the entire season."



Photos by Staff Sgt. Christopher Matthews

Laurence Williams of the Luke Falcons sinks a shot as Davis-Monthan Air Force Base Mustangs tournament all-star Greg Streeter tries to block him during the final game of the March Madness tournament.

'Tallyho' seeks enthusiastic sports writers

By Senior Airman Jeremy Clayton Tredway
56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Every time I walk down the sideline or sit in the bleachers scribbling frantically in my notepad, trying to capture all the action, someone asks me "do you work for the 'Tallyho'?"

After I answer yes, the endless stream of questions and comments come.

"Do you like your job?" "How long have you been doing it?" "We're 5-0." "So-and-so's the best player in the league?" And my personal favorite – "How come you never cover my team?"

Well, I'll tell you why I never cover your team. I'm only one person. I challenge people who feel their team has been neglected, to help me correct the problem. Get a pen and a notebook, go to a game and start writing.

For those of you who are interested in writing sports stories for the "Tallyho," here are a few helpful

guidelines to get you started.

The first paragraph of a sports story should contain seven key elements: who was involved, what happened, when and where it happened, the name of the sport, the score and how the game was won.

The most important part of the first paragraph is usually how the game was won, so you want to put that first.

The second paragraph should explain the first in more detail or interpret the significance of the outcome and relate it to a future event. It can also be used to talk about other key players who helped determine the outcome of the game.

The rest of the story should be written in descending order of importance. Sports stories rarely follow the chronological flow of the event because many times the significant plays or scoring comes in the middle or end of the contest.

Team managers and coaches can be invaluable in interpreting significant plays or in pointing out team

deficiencies and strong points. Officials can also be good sources about sports mechanics.

Sports reporters should use colorful language. Vivid verbs like hammered, poured in and scampered should be used to replace dull ones like hit, scored frequently or ran.

I'm going on leave for a couple weeks, then I'm off to Airman Leadership School a few weeks after I return. The "Tallyho" staff can really use your help. Senior Airman Jill Propst is taking my place and can answer any other questions you may have or suggest games for you to cover.

If you would like to volunteer as a "Tallyho" sports writer, call the staff and let them know what game you plan to cover. This helps them plan photographic support and allows them to save space for your story. It also keeps them from covering the same story time after time.

For more information or to volunteer, call Propst at 856-6055.

Sports Briefs

ROTC golf tournament

The Second Annual ROTC Golf Tournament is April 3 at 7:30 a.m. at the Falcon Dunes Golf Course. The tournament is a four-person scramble. Cost is \$65 per person. Register by March 27. For more information, call retired Brig. Gen. Bob Brainard at 977-1354 or retired Col. Fred Middleton at (480) 991-0528.

Varsity hockey

People wanting to tryout for the s Luke Varsity Ice Hockey Team spring league may call Senior Airman Erik Saracino at work at 856-5970 or home at 544-1637.

Youth spring baseball

The opening day for youth spring baseball is Saturday at 9 a.m. at the youth center ballfield.

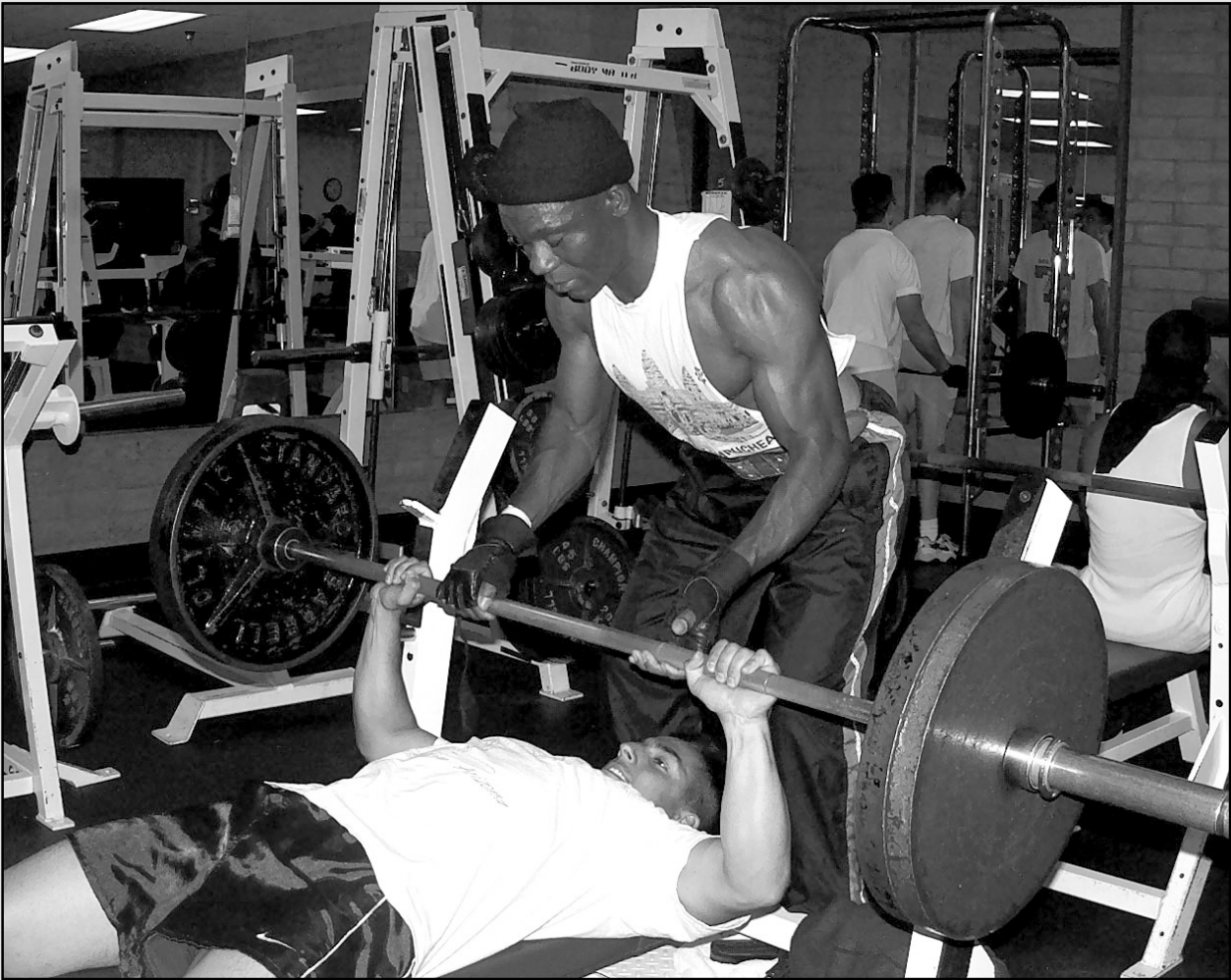
AFA golf tournament

A “Let’s get acquainted with Luke personnel” golf tournament sponsored by the Air Force Association is April 16 at 1 p.m. at the Falcon Dunes Golf Course. The tournament is a four-person scramble made up of two military and two civilian members. Cost is \$38 per person for military members and \$50 per person for everyone else. Register by April 5. For more information, call John Dearness at 975-9877.

Bike rides

The Arizona Bicycle Club offers an out of town bicycle ride Saturday and Sunday from Litchfield Park to Gila Bend. Participants bike down on Saturday and back on Sunday. For more information, call Carolyn at (602) 453-3387 or visit the web site at www.azbikeclub.com.

Pump it up ...



Staff Sgt. Christopher Matthews

Michael Kpodo spots Benjamin Barron as he works out at the base fitness center. In addition to having a wide range of equipment, the base fitness center has five nationally certified trainers that will help anyone plan a work out. For more information, call the fitness center at 856-6241.

